

JAN 28 2015

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO STATE LAND MAMMAL.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The Ōpeʻapeʻa, otherwise known as the Hawaiian
2 hoary bat (*Lasiurus cinereus semotus*), is Hawaii's only endemic
3 land mammal and is a subspecies found only in Hawaii. This bat
4 is a subspecies of the North American hoary bat.

5 An adult Hawaiian hoary has an approximate twelve to
6 fifteen inch wingspan, weighs approximately as much as a mouse,
7 and flies at a speed of up to sixty miles per hour while
8 pursuing mosquitoes, insects, and other night-land aerial prey.
9 A single Hawaiian hoary bat can consume forty percent of its
10 body weight in a single night.

11 On October 13, 1970, the Ōpeʻapeʻa (Hawaiian hoary bat) was
12 added to the United States Fish & Wildlife List of Endangered
13 Species. Population estimates for the Ōpeʻapeʻa have ranged
14 from hundreds to a few thousand. The magnitude of any current
15 population decline is unknown; however, observation and specimen



1 records suggest that the Ōpeʻapeʻa is now absent from
2 historically occupied ranges.

3 The purpose of this Act is to designate the Ōpeʻapeʻa as
4 the state land mammal and raise awareness of the Ōpeʻapeʻa as an
5 endangered species and engender awareness of this uniquely
6 Hawaiian land mammal.

7 This Legislature finds that preserving the Ōpeʻapeʻa which
8 is found only in Hawaii is important to Hawaii's heritage and
9 culture. The Legislature also finds this Act is designed to
10 recognize the importance of the Ōpeʻapeʻa to the State of Hawaii
11 by establishing and designating the Ōpeʻapeʻa as the official
12 state land mammal.

13 SECTION 2. Chapter 5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
14 by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to
15 read as follows:

16 "§5- State land mammal. The Ōpeʻapeʻa, otherwise
17 known as the Hawaiian hoary bat (Lasiurus cinereus semotus), is
18 established and designated as the official land mammal of the
19 State."

20 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

21 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon approval.

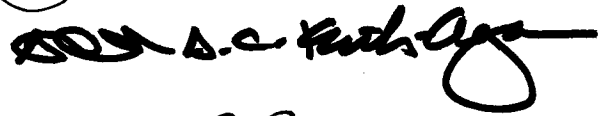
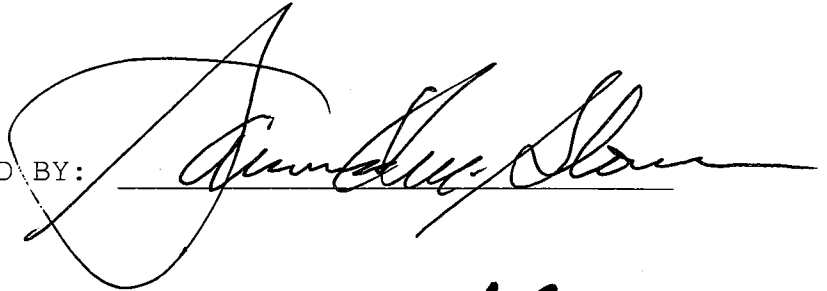


S.B. NO. 1183

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INTRODUCED BY:



S.B. NO. *1183*

Report Title:

Ōpe`ape`a; State Land Mammal

Description:

Designates the Ōpe`ape`a (aka Hawaiian hoary bat) as the state land mammal.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

